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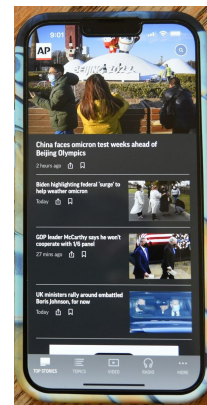
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Connecting

Sept. 26, 2023

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Colleagues,

Good Tuesday morning on this Sept. 26, 2023,

The Associated Press has teamed up with member theGrio for its first-ever panel discussion about issues around race.

Our colleague **Lisa Matthews**, AP's planning editor for U.S. News, said the panel will run on apnews.com and the Allen Media Group's theGrio.com and theGrio Television Network on Wednesday, Oct. 4.

The partnership came together as a result of joint discussions at the National Association of Black Journalists convention in Las Vegas in 2022 when the Allen Group approached The AP with the idea of a joint editorial venture. Matthews led those conversations and after discussions with AP beat team editors agreed to work on the project.

The Oct. 4 panel discussion will focus on threats to democracy, targeted racial violence and attacks on curriculum as it impacts Black Americans.

WAYNE SLATER – My apologies for including Wayne Slater in the list of birthdays for Monday. As several of you pointed out, Wayne **died several years** ago in a car accident. He had worked for AP in several bureaus before joining the Dallas Morning News statehouse bureau in Austin where he was a reporter and bureau chief.

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy, live the day to your fullest.

Paul

ALLEN MEDIA GROUP’S THEGRIO AND THE AP TO HOST PANEL DISCUSSION “RACE AND DEMOCRACY: THE FACTS AND THE FURY”

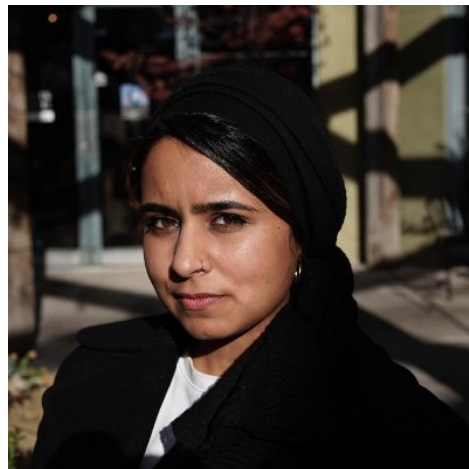
Collaboration Between Media Organizations to Air Wednesday, Oct. 4 on theGrio Television Network Series ‘TheGrio News with Marc Lamont Hill’ and on APNEWS.com



Pictured above, clockwise from top left: Dr. Christina Greer, Aaron Morrison, Ayanna Alexander, Marc Lamont Hill.

AT RIGHT: AP's Noreen Nasir, moderator.

NEW YORK — Allen Media Group’s multimedia platform **theGrio** (www.thegrio.com) and **The Associated Press (AP)** will present an engaging and insightful panel discussion titled **RACE AND DEMOCRACY: THE FACTS AND THE FURY** on **theGrio** and **AP** television, audio and digital platforms (www.apnews.com).



The panel will feature **AP** Race and Ethnicity Editor Aaron Morrison; **AP** Race and Ethnicity Writer Ayanna Alexander; **theGrio's** Dr. Christina Greer, political analyst and host of THE BLACKEST QUESTIONS on **theGrio Black Podcast Network**; and Marc Lamont Hill, anchor of THEGRIO NEWS WITH MARC LAMONT HILL on **theGrio Television Network**. The panel will be moderated by **AP** Race and Ethnicity video journalist Noreen Nasir.

RACE AND DEMOCRACY: THE FACTS AND THE FURY airs **Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m., ET** on THEGRIO NEWS WITH MARC LAMONT HILL on **theGrio Television Network**. The panel discussion will also be broadcast at 7:30 p.m. ET on **theGrio** television and streaming platforms and will be made available to **AP** customers via [APNews.com](https://www.apnews.com).

The discussion will tackle some of the most pressing and relevant issues surrounding race, democracy and social justice in the United States, including efforts to restrict how race can be taught in schools, targeted racial violence, threats to democracy and more. This collaboration brings together a diverse group of experts and thought leaders who will share their unique perspectives and experiences, as well as relay findings from **AP's** reporting on the topics.

Panelist Information:

- **Aaron Morrison:** Aaron Morrison is an award-winning multimedia journalist based in New York City, and currently serves as AP's race and ethnicity news editor. Prior to his appointment as editor, he was AP's national race and ethnicity writer. Aaron serves as an adjunct lecturer for the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY in Manhattan. He has written extensively about civil rights, politics, criminal justice reform and grassroots social movements, including the Black Lives Matter movement.
- **Ayanna Alexander:** Ayanna Alexander covers race and voting as a member of AP's democracy team. Notably, she covered the trial of former Minneapolis officer Derek Chauvin, who was convicted of murdering George Floyd. Ayanna's beat includes a deeper look at the impact of redistricting and gerrymandering at the local, state, and congressional levels and voting restrictions on the most marginalized communities. Prior to AP, Ayanna worked at Bloomberg Law, where she covered social justice and health technology.
- **Dr. Christina Greer:** A respected political scientist, author, commentator and Fordham University professor, Christina Greer is known for her expertise in American politics and race relations. The first Public Scholar of the new Moynihan Center at The City College of New York, she currently hosts THE BLACKEST QUESTIONS on theGrio Black Podcast Network.
- **Marc Lamont Hill:** A prominent scholar, activist, and award-winning media personality, Marc Lamont Hill has consistently contributed to discussions on race, education, and social justice. A professor at Temple University, he hosts "THE GRIO NEWS WITH MARC LAMONT HILL weekdays at 7 p.m. ET on theGrio Television Network.
- **Moderator Noreen Nasir:** Noreen Nasir is a national video journalist on AP's race and ethnicity team and is based in New York. Her reporting focuses on stories about racial disparities and injustice in the U.S. She's covered a range of breaking news, political events and enterprise stories, from the wave of racial justice protests across the country and unrest in Minneapolis after the killing of George Floyd, to the Iowa caucuses, to the effects of pandemic restrictions on rehabilitation programs in prison.

Nasir joined AP in 2015 in Washington, D.C. Before that, she was a reporter/producer for the PBS NewsHour.

About theGrio

TheGrio is a digital, video-centric news community devoted to giving voice to trusted figures on the front line who inspire us every day, and to fresh perspectives who buck convention because there's more than one way to be Black. We are the largest Black newsroom in America devoted to satisfying the need to stay connected. We believe a well-informed community best determines its own interests. And so, theGrio's editorial mandate is to focus on news and events that have a pronounced impact on a Black global audience. We unabashedly explore culture and entertainment, health and lifestyle, politics and policy, business and empowerment, food and fitness, science and climate, tech and innovation and everything in between that matters to us. In 2016, Allen Media Group purchased theGrio, which features aggregated and original video packages, news articles, and opinion pieces on topics that include breaking news, politics, sports, health, business and entertainment. The digital platform remains focused on curating exciting digital content and currently has more than 100 million annual visitors. TheGrio is available everywhere people consume information — on a mobile app, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, AppleTV, and now as an over-the-air television network, as well as through Comcast, Charter/Spectrum, Cox, DISH, Sling, Verizon Fios, DirecTV, and DirecTV Stream.

About AP

The Associated Press is an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP today remains the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day. Online: www.ap.org

Mysterious Wire Machine

Robert Burdick - It's quite possible that the pictured wire machine was not AP, UPI or UPI / INS. It looks very much like one of the in-house machines used in the 1950s and 1960s by The Miami Herald (and other regional newspapers) in bureaus. The Herald had similar machines in Key West, Hollywood (Fla.), Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Delray Beach, West Palm Beach, Stuart, Fort Pierce, Vero Beach, Cocoa. Naples, Fort Myers and Tallahassee (possibly more places). Bureau reporters (I was one for a time) toiled over these all-cap, slow-speed beasts to file daily copy. In its early days, 'Today,' then Gannett's upstart new paper in Cocoa, had similar machines in Stuart, Melbourne, Titusville, New Smyrna Beach and Orlando. Need any more useless trivia?

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Jerry Cipriano - In response to Tim Marsh's challenge, my guess is the teletype machine in the photograph of Maynard F. Hicks belonged to The Associated Press.

The clue is the metal label on the front left.

While you can't make out the words in the photo, the label looks similar to the relic I saved all these years from a vintage printer at 50 Rock.

It reads:

PROPERTY OF
The Associated Press

A memorable day with Pulitzer winners Horst Faas, Eddie Adams



Far Left - Eddie Adams and Horst Faas. Harry's back to the camera.

Frank Hawkins - A lovely moment from my days as Chief of Middle East Services based in Beirut taken from my memoir.

Our irrepressible chief photographer Harry "The Horse" Koundakjian owned a plot of land at Anjar, an Armenian heavy community in a beautiful valley near the Syrian border on the road to Damascus. He loved to drive out there for a quiet Sunday afternoon picnic in the sunny Lebanese countryside.

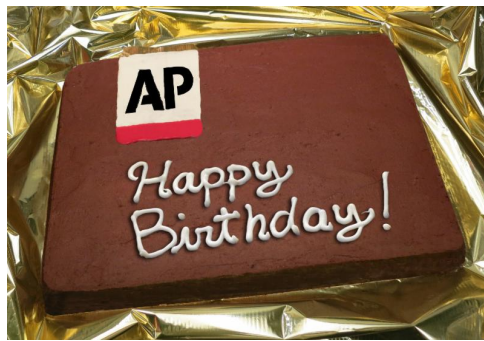
One day Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Horst Faas was in town. A German national, Horst won two Pulitzers for the AP, one in Vietnam and one in Bangladesh. I worked several assignments together with Horst including the wedding of the crown prince in Nepal in 1970. Also in town that day was Eddie Adams, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his photo of a notorious shooting on a Saigon Street in the middle of the Tet offensive. The police chief shot a captured Viet Cong in the head. Adams was in the right place at the right time and captured the moment the police chief fired the bullet. Eddie and I became pretty good friends and had one great assignment together, the funeral for King Faisal in Riyadh in March 1975. Eddie was a bit of a cowboy, but he was awfully good at what he did. And I really enjoyed our friendship.

For the occasion, Harry organized a picnic with a delicious mezze of hummus, baba ganoush, falafel, stuffed grape leaves, chickpeas, spinach fatayers, Lebanese fowl, tabbouleh, stuffed zucchini and other delicacies laid out on a carpet with lots of arak, the anise tasting drink of choice for many Lebanese. What a memorable day it was with Horst and Eddie, two of the giants of photojournalism during that era.

The Revivalists

[Dave Lubeski](#) - Dan Sewell's post (in Monday's Connecting) about the young man from Ohio who was working post-Katrina construction in New Orleans and fell in love with the music scene there, aroused my curiosity. Ever since my wife gave me an iPod for Christmas more than a dozen years ago, I've built and maintained a fairly large iTunes music library. iPods are obsolete now, but I've kept the Apple Music library going and I'm always in search of a new group or singer. Dan was right on point about the Revivalists. I've included here a link to a music video by the band of their song - [Wish I knew You When I Was Young](#) It's set in a high school reunion for the class of 1965 and flashes back to that year and then to the same people in the present. Spiking the punch bowl made for some humor in the video. Thank you, Dan Sewell, for alerting us to the The Revivalists' music. It's the real deal.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[Kevin McGill](#)

[Jay Perkins](#)

Stories of interest

The Supreme Court will hear a case with a lot of 'buts' & 'ifs' over the meaning of 'and' (AP)

BY MARK SHERMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's hard to imagine a less contentious or more innocent word than "and."

But how to interpret that simple conjunction has prompted a complicated legal fight that lands in the Supreme Court on Oct. 2, the first day of its new term. What the justices decide could affect thousands of prison sentences each year.

Federal courts across the country disagree about whether the word, as it is used in a bipartisan 2018 criminal justice overhaul, indeed means "and" or whether it means

“or.” Even an appellate panel that upheld a longer sentence called the structure of the provision “perplexing.”

The Supreme Court has stepped in to settle the dispute.

It’s the kind of task the justices — and maybe their English teachers — love. The case requires the close parsing of a part of a federal statute, the First Step Act, which aimed in part to reduce mandatory minimum sentences and give judges more discretion.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Paul Albright.

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PBS’ free original programming lane may close soon, with Ken Burns and Elon Musk projects coming (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — PBS was looking forward to a relatively free lane to offer fresh television to viewers downtrodden by the Hollywood strikes this fall, but that advantage may only last a couple of months now.

A tentative deal reached late Sunday in the crippling TV writers strike, with hopes that actors would soon follow suit, has given rise to hopes that new episodes of favorite scripted shows might return sometime this winter.

With commercial networks largely bereft of fresh material beyond reality shows, sports and game shows, PBS has a fall schedule of new programming, including a heavy dose of nonfiction, led by Ken Burns’ look at “The American Buffalo.”

“I have to believe that people are looking for new stuff,” said Paula Kerger, CEO of the Public Broadcasting Service.

Read more [here](#).

-0-

James Nachtwey: The last of the great photojournalists (BBC)

By Jonathan Head
South East Asia correspondent

A woman has just discovered the bodies of her husband and brother in her garden in Bucha, a suburb of the Ukrainian capital Kyiv.

The bodies are dusted with frost. She lays one hand on her brother, while the fingers of her other hand touch her mouth.

There are two more human hands almost perfectly arranged in the frame, of someone whose face cannot be seen - one resting on the head of a dog, the other playing nervously with her blonde hair.

It presents an unexpectedly peaceful moment, arranged with the near-perfect balance of a classical painting. Except it's not - it's a photo from the aftermath of the massacre of civilians in Bucha, taken by the renowned photojournalist James Nachtwey.

"Hands and eyes. I'm concentrating always on hands and eyes. And the detail of the dog. You actually seem to see sympathy in the face of the dog," says Mr Nachtwey, who has brought his retrospective exhibition Memoria to Bangkok, the only place it is being shown in Asia.

The collection has 126 photographs from some of the worst conflicts and disasters of our times - from Central America in the 1980s to the ongoing war in Ukraine.

A very private, softly-spoken man who prefers to let his images speak for themselves, Mr Nachtwey agreed to be interviewed in Bangkok about his approach to photojournalism, and about the state of the profession in the digital age.

Now 75 years old, Mr Nachtwey just missed being part of the Vietnam War generation of photojournalists, when the profession reached the peak of its influence.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Richard Chady.

The Final Word

Opinion / The Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce story is a fascinating study of media consumption (Poynter)



Taylor Swift, center, attended the Kansas City Chiefs NFL football game against the Chicago Bears with Travis Kelce's mother, Donna Kelce, at lower left, on Sunday in Kansas City. (AP Photo/Reed Hoffmann)

By: Tom Jones

The biggest story in the country right now isn't the looming government shutdown or the end of the Hollywood writers strike.

The story everyone is talking about?

Taylor Swift might be dating Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce and she went to his game on Sunday!

This is big, people. If this thing works out, it could be the biggest entertainer-sports match since Marilyn Monroe married Joe DiMaggio, or at least Tom Brady and Gisele Bündchen.

OK, before you roll your eyes, and ask, "Why are you talking about this?" I will say this is a fascinating study of media and media consumption, and it could have some implications for the NFL and TV.

Wall Street Journal sports columnist Jason Gay wrote a fun column about it all, but he actually hit on why this is such a big deal. He wrote, "... our nation's two most powerful entertainment forces collided."

Read more [here](#).

Today in History – Sept. 26, 2023



By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 26, the 269th day of 2022. There are 96 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 26, 1960, the first-ever debate between presidential nominees took place as Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon faced off before a national TV audience from Chicago.

On this date:

In 1777, British troops occupied Philadelphia during the American Revolution.

In 1888, poet T.S. Eliot was born in St. Louis, Missouri.

In 1954, the Japanese commercial ferry Toya Maru sank during a typhoon in the Tsugaru Strait, claiming more than 1,150 lives.

In 1986, William H. Rehnquist was sworn in as the 16th chief justice of the United States, while Antonin Scalia joined the Supreme Court as its 103rd member.

In 1990, the Motion Picture Association of America announced it had created a new rating, NC-17, to replace the X rating.

In 1991, four men and four women began a two-year stay inside a sealed-off structure in Oracle, Arizona, called Biosphere 2. They emerged from Biosphere on this date in 1993.

In 1996, President Clinton signed a bill ensuring two-day hospital stays for new mothers and their babies.

In 2003, President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin opened a two-day summit at Camp David.

In 2005, Army Pfc. Lynndie England was convicted by a military jury in Fort Hood, Texas, on six of seven counts stemming from the Abu Ghraib prison abuse scandal.

In 2008, Hollywood screen legend and philanthropist Paul Newman died in Westport, Connecticut, at age 83.

In 2016, Republican Donald Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton participated in their first debate of the presidential campaign at Hofstra University in New York.

In 2019, as Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh prepared for a public Senate hearing on an allegation from a California professor that Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were teens, a third accusation of sexual misconduct came from a woman who said she saw Kavanaugh “consistently engage in excessive drinking and inappropriate contact of a sexual nature.”

In 2020, President Donald Trump nominated judge Amy Coney Barrett, a former clerk to the late Justice Antonin Scalia, to the Supreme Court, to fill the seat left vacant by the death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. (Barrett would be confirmed the following month.)

In 2021, the Rolling Stones launched their pandemic-delayed “No Filter” tour in St. Louis without their drummer of nearly six decades, Charlie Watts, who had died in August at age 80.

In 2022, NASA spacecraft Dart rammed an asteroid at blistering speed in an unprecedented dress rehearsal for the day a killer rock menaces Earth.

Today’s Birthdays: Former baseball All-Star Bobby Shantz is 98. Country singer David Frizzell is 82. Actor Kent McCord is 81. Television host Anne Robinson is 79. Singer Bryan Ferry is 78. Actor Mary Beth Hurt is 77. Actor James Keane is 71. Rock singer-musician Cesar Rosas (Los Lobos) is 69. Country singer Carlene Carter is 68. Actor Linda Hamilton is 67. R&B singer Cindy Herron (En Vogue) is 62. Actor Melissa Sue Anderson is 61. Actor Patrick Bristow is 61. Rock musician Al Pitrelli is 61. Singer Tracey Thorn (Everything But The Girl) is 61. TV personality Jillian Barberie is 57. Actor Jim Caviezel (kuh-VEE’-zuhl) is 55. Actor Tricia O’Kelley is 55. Actor Ben Shenkman is 55. Actor Melanie Paxson is 51. Singer Shawn Stockman (Boyz II Men) is 51. Music producer Dr. Luke is 50. Jazz musician Nicholas Payton is 50. Actor Mark Famiglietti (fah-mihl-YEH’-tee) is 44. Singer-actor Christina Milian (MIHL’-ee-ahn) is 42. Tennis player Serena Williams is 42. Actor Zoe Perry is 40. Singer/songwriter Ant Clemons is 32.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that reaches more than 1,800 retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013. Past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens,

retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsmen in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Central Region vice president based in Kansas City.

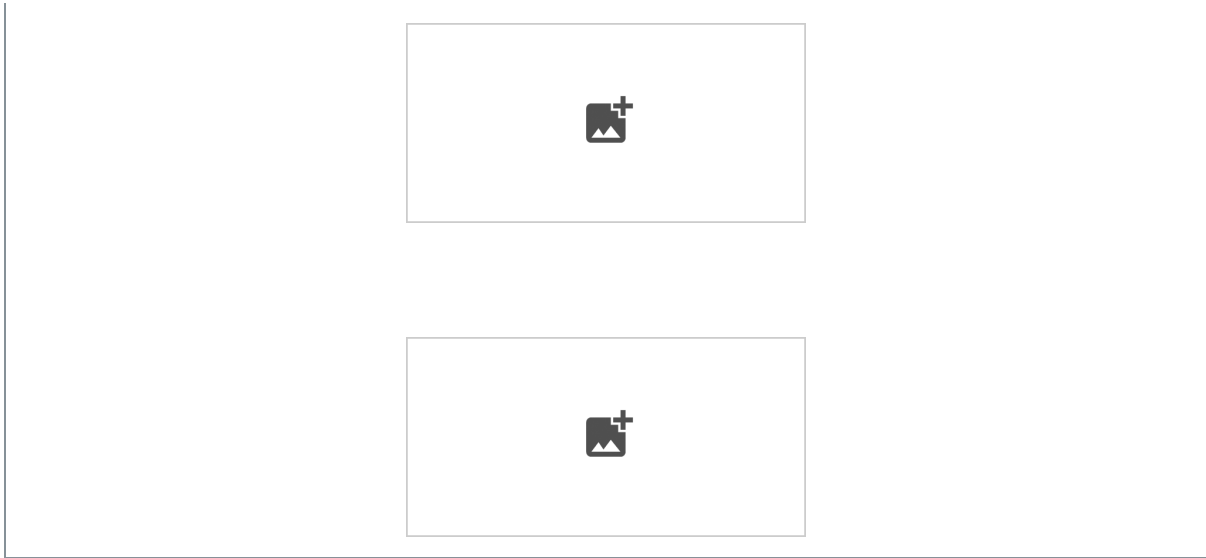
Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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